## Business Notices.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE

Year Committee appointed to examine Toward's Parks Broom report: That we believe the peculiar construction of these Brooms add much to their strength and datability, and are a decided improvement.

(Signed)

(Signed)
WM. S. CARPENTER,
SCION ROBINSON,
EDWARD DOUGHTY,

Committee.

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TROCHES.

TROCHES.

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PARKER SEWING-MACHINE. \$40. First Class, Double-Twirman,
Rapid and Noiseless. Under patent of Howe, Grover & Baker,
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## New-York Daily Tribunc

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1861.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. All business letters for this office should be addressed to "The TRIBUSE." Now-York.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. What ever is intended for insertion must be authoritiested by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guaranty for his good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

The nominations of Mr. Dale as Commissioner for Indian Affairs, and of Mr. Williams as a Judge in Kausas, both citizens of Illinois, were sent to the Senate yesterday.

The Unionists have carried North Carolina on the question of holding a Convention. The State has gone against a Convention by a thousand majority-small, but sufficient. Of the delegates elected to be members of the Convention, in case it should have been ordered by the people, two-thirds are for the Union.

The Southern Congress has passed an Army bill which has been for some time under discussion, and it is expected that the Confederacy will soon have 50,000 men in the field. As that number of troops in active service will cost at least fifty millions of dollars per annum, the Confederacy will find the question of revenue an exceedingly serious one.

Our Secessionist correspondent at Montgomery telegraphs that a liberal copyright will be granted to foreign nations by the Southern Congress-a piece of information that will doubtless cause a thrill of delight in the literary circles of Europe. He also informs us that the European reprints of the North will not be allowed to circulate in the new Confederacy, probably because of their heretical sentiments on the Slavery question.

In the United States Senate yesterday Mr. Foster of Connecticut introduced a resolution for the expulsion of the notorious Wigfall, on the ground that he had on the floor of the Senate declared himself a foreigner, owing no allegiance to the United States. As Wigfall was absent at the time, the motion was not pressed to a vote. The dignity of the Senate, and the whole Government has been too long insulted by such fellows as Wigfall, who affect to regard the authority of the United States as a farce, and to treat it with contempt. It is time that they were made to understand that there is such a crime as treason, and such things as laws to punish it.

By the arrival of the steamship North Briton at Portland last evening, from Liverpool the 21st | arisen Judge Douglas's reverence for Courts in ult. and Londonderry the 22d, we have two days later news from Europe. A severe gale had laid the north wing of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham in rains. The French Government was Eugene Scribe, the dramatist is dead. The Bourbon General in command of Messina had replied to the Sardinian summons to surrender the fortress, that he would defend it to the last becoming very serious; several districts have been Coasols, 912 @914.

THE BORDER STATES.

Whatever else the Border Slave States may do, the plan referred to by our correspondent at Richmond in this morning's paper, of a Central Confederacy, is altogether the most impracticable and most mischievous. It is barely possible, though not probable, that the United States, divided into two Confederacies, a Northern and a Southern, might maintain separate Governments, at least for a period, and preserve amicable relations; but to attempt to divide the country into three Confederacies, would certainly lead to the worst consequences of disunion that have ever been predicted. Disunion, pure and simple, would be an alternative much to be preferred by all parties, and particularly by the Border States themselves. For the formation of such a Central Confederacy must necessarily be preceded by civil war, undertaken by these Border States on behalf of those further South in resistance of the Federal Government; and who can foretell what may be the result of a war so begun, not for the purpose of saving the Union, but because it is destroyed already? Better would it be that these States should go at once with a Southern Confederacy, if such be the will of their people, than that they should step in as armed mediators, without the hope of influence enough to keep the peace on either side, because on the important point of lending their strength to either in a permanent Government, they abandon both. If by a popular vote the Border States unequivecally declare their intention of going with the Confederate States-supposing that they shall not come back-then the revolution is formidable and respectable enough to appeal, with some reason, to the North to recognize the existence of a Southern Confederacy to be met with treaties rather than with arms. But if these States choose to remain faithful to the Union, they preserve their influence over both parties; over the South to return to their allegiance, and over the North to exercise forbearance in any event, whether the union between them shall be preserved or not. While, should they withdraw and form a Central Confederacy, though they may GIFFORD'S HOMEOPATHIC REMEDY for SEMINAL be the allies for a time of their neighbors on the South, they sacrifice, by refusing to go with them altogether, as they do by leaving the North, all influence whatever, and will find themselves, at last, the antagonist of parties on both sides of them, and the debateable ground of their contests. The interests of the Border Slave States are un-

questionably Northern, and Northern they must be, if we are to divide into two. Any attempt on their part to avert that destiny is futile, and is only to condemn them to a long struggle. There is no real reason why there should be civil war between the United States and the South, and should one arise it can be only of very short duration, unless the Border States complicate the question by separate secession. Then will arise a conflict within their own limits between the Northern and Southern interests -the interests of Slavery and Freedom-which will inevitably involve the whole country. When such civil war as this arises among us, it will be complicated by one still more difficult to manage-a servile war. Both undoubtedly are inevitable after a due lapse of time in any purely slavebolding government on this continent. Where they are prevented at all, it will be by the Free State element within the same Confederacy. If the Border States sacrifice now this redeeming element their destiny will be very soon accomplished, because the antagonisms necessary to its accomplishment are already vigorous and well organized within their limits. But as an integral part of a Free Confederacy these antagonisms are subdued and kept in check, and that result is worked out by natural laws and careful treatment which, in the other case, comes through speedy violence. There are, it is to be hoped, quiet, conservative, and reasonable people enough in those States to understand this, and to see that disaster must inevitably overwhelm them if any such movement shall be for a little while-as it could only

## be for a little while-successful. DOUGLAS.

Mr. Douglas has taken the new Administration in hand at the outset, and it is his purpose, by the most unscrupulous efforts of ingenuity to ge it within his grasp and crush it. Douglas is no common man. With an unbounded stomach for political preferment, he pursues his end without the slightest regard to the fairness of his means, and from each disaster rises with renewed strength, insolence, and recklessness. Wholly unfettered by those moral restraints which compel some statesmen to pay respect to the claims of decency, Douglas dashes on, unawed by exposure, unabashed by detection. If truth stand in his way, it is ruthlessly thrust aside, and shamelessly evaded. If honor forbid the use of a political weapon, an excuse is not wanting for its violation. Thus Douglas induced Republican Senators to vote apparently in favor of Squatter Sovereignty upon his pledge that the vote should not be used against them politically; yet upon the plea that Lincoln pressed him hard in the Illinois canvass he did not hesitate to cite this vote against the men who cost it in consequence of his pledge. Throughout his whole political career, Douglas has been esteemed tricky and untrustworthy in his personal character. He began life a demagogue, and he has pursued his political way, keeping the same character, and displaying an aptitude for political intrigue which has no parallel.

Although nominally a lawyer, Douglas never had any legal training to speak of, and his general education was extremely limited. Yet at the age of 22 he was Attorney-General of Illinois, which at that time was an office quite as important as that of District-Attorney in one of the counties in this State, and therefore required some knowledge of law. But this was nothing in comparison to his leap upon the beach of the Supreme Court of Illinois at the age of 28. This judicial feat was, in fact, a political maneuver got up by Douglas and others to overslaugh the old Supreme Court by adding more Judges, and incidentally to provide places for briefless politicians. From this little operation has doubtless general, especially the Supreme Court of the United States. So entirely devoted was he to politics, that before being made a Judge be had twice run for Congress in the great Consending recuforcements to its army at Rome. gressional District which at the time held within its limits Chicago, Galena, and S; ringfield. His first canvass was made in 1838, against William L. May, and the modest youth did not scruple to advocate his own election on the ground that extremity. The state of affairs in Hungary is Henry Clay required some one to demolish him, and Douglas was the man to do it. In 1840, he

progress, and as every man could legally vote once who had lived six months in the State, Douglas devoted himself to the personal cultivation of the canal-diggers, every man of whom voted for him as often as the law allowed, and some a good deal oftener. By extensive pipe-laying he was got into Congress, but the extension of suffrage was not so successful as in 1858, when he beat Lincoln for the Senate by carrying a couple of doubtful counties. When he first sought to get into the Senate his very eagerness to drive the Legislature to support him caused his defeat. But he was not a man to be put down by his party, and he soon became Senator, after serving two or three terms in the House of Representatives with no great distinction. Once in the Senate, the road to the White House seemed nearly traveled. Willing to concede everything to the South, having, in right of his wife, a plantation in Mississippi well stocked with negroes, he still remembered that Illinois was a Free State, and that he had a position to maintain at home. Hence it came to pass that his course on the Slavery question was vacillating and temporazing. One day the Missouri Compromise was pronounced "canonized in the hearts "of the American people," and as sacred as the Constitution itself, and a little while afterward a bill was introduced by him to repeal that canonized measure. Not caring whether Slavery was "voted up or voted down," he still did care for the support of his own State, and, therefore, gave a half-vigorous, balf-hesitating opposition to the Lecompton policy, failing to sustain the English villainy only because some leading friends restrained him almost by force. His scheme of Squatter Sovereignty, designed for the spread of Slavery, while it seemed to threaten its restriction, was nullified by accepting the dicta of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, and declaring the question a judicial one; and when finally a more decided policy than Squatter Sovereignty prevailed at the polls, he rushed back to the support of that canonized Compromise which his ruthless hand had struck down. At Charleston, he broke up the Democratic party upon a pretended principle which he now abandons, conceding eagerly more than the Convention demanded. At Norfolk, he made a valiant speech in favor of enforcing the laws, promising to aid Lincoln to enforce them; yet after Lincoln's election, he discovered that there was no way of enforcing the law against revolted States except by the aid of tipstaves. Thus, after twisting and turning, and trying to ride both sides of the sapling at once, we have Stephen A. Douglas brought face to face with the Administration of President Lincoln, and resolved to do all in his power to cripple that Administration and destroy the party which called it into being. The evidence of this will be found in the insidious speeches he has made on the Inaugural, professing the utmost candor in criticising it, giving it credit for sentiments not expressed, and holding the Administration responsible for any departure from those sentiments, as expounded by Douglas. Mark how kindly he dissepts from the views of Clingman, at the same time shaking hands with Wigfall, by way of hint of what he is driving at. his notions of enforcing the laws are discarded now. He thinks it will take 10,000 men to reenforce Sumter, and 200,000 men to enforce the laws. His endeavor is to assume the part of a candid observer, and commit the Administration to the passive policy of Buchanan, deluding it all the while with the fiction of Democratic support, while he himself goes on his knees to Cottondom, and comes out at last the champion of Southern rights, and the preserver of the Union. If the pleasure be as great in being cheated as to cheat, the Administration will suffer itself to be led along by its candid friend, Mr. Douglas, until he gets it on the brink of that political precipice over which he can dash it into ruins. The old Douglas legend, we believe, is "Beware the

both of these elections the Illinois Canal was in

when Mr. Douglas is around and begins to hug them in a delicate way A POPULAR DELUSION EXPLODED.

"bear." It is a very good legend for Presidents

and Cabinets to learn by heart about these times,

It is probable that most men, recurring to the period of their boyhood, will remember with a feeling like disgust a certain Master Smith or Master Brown or Master M. or N., who was every day held up to them by relatives, teachers, or meddlesome elderly friends, as a pattern to follow, and as representing the favorable side in a most odious comparison. Did the unhappy child soil his trowsers, perchance tear them is objectionable places; did he so far forget himself as to drink with his mouth full, thereby scattering terror about the table; did he entrap flies at school, kiss the pretty girl with ringlets and a long apron, thus producing the tears which make cowards of us all; or did he do anything which, being descended from Adam, he might be experied to do, this Master Smith or Brown would he let loose upon him. like the tame elephants on the wild, to dragoon him into civilization. Master Smith never would do this-Master Brown never would allow himself to do that-see what a perfect little gentleman Master M. or N. ishow nicely his head is brushed, and how sweetly he said his hymns to-day. The browbeaten urchin takes it all in silence, being shrewd enough to see that a calumnious attack upon the pattern boy would be useless; but he nevertheless knows that the good youth is a humbug, that the perfect little gentleman lies to his parents, pinches his sister, threatens to pinch her more if she tells, and that, while he sweetly says his hymns, he has his pockets full of pilfered goodies. When he meets this precious subject for a memoir in later life, he cannot help asking himself whether the adult friends who recommended such a model were fools, or whether

they only supposed him to be one. We at the North have long been troubled with odions comparisons not unlike those which mar the peace of boyhood. Our "Master Smith" has been the Southerner, the "Southron," as the writers of pretty novellettes call him. The "high spirited, chivalrous son of the South" has been flung in our faces on all occasions-when we have engaged in trade, or tried to collect our dues, or objected to being tarred and feathered, or tilled our fields, or carned our living in our own way, whatever that way might be, or modestly suggested that we should like a morsel of our rights under the Constitution, or asked permission to elect our own rulers, or-in fact, all the time. So many of us being descendants of men who were forced to struggle with a barren soil and Siberian declared in a state of siege. Provisions are dull. ran against John T. Stuart, and displayed con- cold for a subsistence, it could not be ex-

race who have had nothing to do but eat the bread earned by the sweat of black foreheads, and devote an elegant leisure to selfculture; so it would not be strange if, being often reminded of our social inferiority, we began te feel that the "courtly Virginian," or "the "dashing South Carolinian," were really our superiors in the outer refinements and the inborn sense of honor with which the poetical toadies of our generation have delighted to endow them. It is true that we have rarely seen this Admirable Crichton of the Slaveocracy; timidly, and with a proper distrust of our judgment, we have sometimes whispered to ourselves that the long-haired. loose-jointed, strangely-clad individual with peagreen gloves and much gold watch-chain, who booked himself on hotel registers and college records as a resident of the Sunny South, must be an impostor; we have, perhaps, occasionally asked each other with a becoming modesty, if the rude men whom we met in Washington, armed with many knives and doing execution on much tobacco, could be the true gentlemen of the land of leisure, who had so often put our Northern awkwardness to the blush. But yet, as a general rule, we have quite resignedly accepted the statement that we had no manners or cultivation or sense of honor, and that they had all.

The events of the past four months, however, have done much to shake our confidence in this theory. We have had an acquaintance more extensive than satisfactory with the "noble South-"ron" in our Cabinet, our Army and Navy, our Congress, and we begin to see that we have been bullied by a humbug-though that is a word which the courtly model would probably chide us for using. A few instances will point our moral if they do not adorn our tale, and by these few all may be known. We had a Secretary of the Treasury who

found the country prosperous and his department

amply supplied with funds, and who applied all

his feeble energies to the work of ruining the one and leaving the other bankrupt; unable to compass half this design, he accomplished the remainder and then ran away, leaving a confusion of unpaid bills for his successor, and threw himself on the bosom of his beautiful South. We had another Secretary, he of the War Department, who feathered his nest by dishonest contracts, then scattered the forces under his control so that they could not interfere with his parposes, sent munitions where he knew they would be stolen by traitors, put out of the way honest officials who obstructed his treachery, sold for a sixth of their value arms which he knew would be used against his country, and then, when an unlucky accident exposed some of his rascality and subjected him to a criminal indictment, he, too, ran away to his own place-the South. We had still another Secretary, presiding over the Interior, whose noble office, publicly performed, was, while yet holding the commission of the United States, to serve as the agent of Mississippi in the work of engaging Nor'h Carolina in treason; and that accomplished, his next duty was to break the most sacred confidence, and give-to traitors early information of measures set on foot to restrain them. Hav ing done this, he lied himself out of office, and going to his loved South, boasted of his shame We had a member of Congress, a Senator named Toombs, who from his seat in the Capitol telegraphed false dispatches and treaconable advice, enjoining upon his chivalrous brethren the necessity of robbing the Government. In our army there was a white-headed old man-we say white-headed because his name is too prominent as a subgist of hair-dye to leave the matter doubtful-who had for fifty years been honored through service under the Federal flag; he brought everlasting infamy upon his name, and tingling mortification upon the soldiers he commanded, by turning over his trust to a mob of Rebels; and in his honor the "gallant Southrous" have murdered much of the English language, and roared till hoarseness silenced them. Our navy furnishes some equally bright examples of Southern chivalry: One Lieutenant, bearing the henored name of Hamilton, esigned from his vessel while lying in a foreign port, and then, without waiting to learn if his resignation was accepted, called on his fellow officers from the Southern States to resign also, urging those who commanded vessels to bring them into Southern ports, there to give them up to the Rebels, take commissions under the new Confederation, and turn their guns against the country to which they belonged. Another, Captain Randolph, who had been excused from active service for three years by reason of illness, found himself sufficiently recovered to lead a band of insurgents to the Navy-Yard of Pensacola, while yet a Captain in the service, and demand its surrender. The second in command at that yard was one Farrand-a "gallant " Southron," of course-and he it was who opened the gate to the band led by our sick exemplar, and allowed the traitors to sneak within, while he still held his commission in the service he disgraced. A certain Lieutenant Renshaw, highspirited Southerner, and perfect gentleman, al holding his commission, ordered the flag of the United States to be pulled down, while the rabble spat upon it and drivelled their maudlin

What need of making longer the catalogue Are not the events of these four months graven on the memory of the People ? And will they not, for a time, at least, silence that crawling adulation which has so long prated of Southern honor and Southern superiority in manly attri-

MARVELS OF THE WHEAT PLANT. Iron has been held by some to be the tru symbol of civilization, because nations produce and use it in proportion to their social and industrial advancement. A similar claim has been made for cotton, but by the taskmaster only. But the wheat plant is the true symbol. Civil zation began when its cultivation commenced. No savage nations cultivate it. The American aborigines had no knowledge of it, and they quickly remarked the difference between themselves and the English, saying that the latter lived on seeds while they fived on flesh; that the flesh had four legs on which to escape, while they had but two with which to pursue it, and that the seedgrowers would supersede the flesh-enters. Wherever wheat is cultivated the nations abandon barbarism. Mechanism was invoked, even many centuries ago, to promote, by rude contrivances, both tillage and cleaning. The inventor of the sickle is unknown, but the pic neers of Dutch commerce in China, there discovered the winnowing mill which is now a fixture in every American barn. The wheat plant has long been perhaps the greatest power in the earth.

eteam engine was unknown, before a single coal mine had been opened, or the miraculous capacities of iron had been ascertained. It has been the great power from which buman effort, in all countries, has derived its mightiest momentum. It has built turnpikes and railroads, dug canals, founded cities, covered rivers with steamboats and the ocean with ships. Millions of human beings depend upon it for existence, both as growers and consumers. Banish it from the earth, and it would be vain to seek for a substitute. Our teeming West would stop suddenly short in its wonderful career of greatness. Agriculture everywhere would pause, scarcity be universal, and the fact be recognized that the wheat plant is the corner stone of civilization. The oldest history mentions the cultivation of

place, been found growing wild. Neither is the country of its origin certainly known. On this point we obtain light enough from history and botany to justify the conjecture that its native place is Persia, and also Iodia. But even on this point there are different opinions entertained by able writers. It is certainly not indigenous to America. In 1530, a slave of Cortez found some grains which had been accidentally mixed with rice, and having carefully planted them and their product for several years, he raised a stock of seed from which all the subsequent wheat crops of Mexico have been derived. The controversy touching the origin of wheat has been most animated and voluminous. In Sicily a wild grass is found called by botanists Egilops ocata, which some have contended to be the true parent of wheat. It is a hard, rough-looking grass, which is sometimes gathered in bunches and burnt, and the seeds used for food. It is also found in various other places, and there are several species of it. It was contended that by careful cultivation the Egllops could be transformed into wheat. This was as vehemently denied. It was known, however, that under certain circumstances, plants very nearly resembling wheat had been produced from two perfectly distinct species of Egilops, and the presumption obtained that these were the wild representatives of cultivated grain, and that therefore wheat is nothing more than Egilops modified by the influence of soil, climate, and superior cultivation.

While this point was yet mooted by the botanists, an experiment was going on unknown to them, instituted by one who had never heard of their investigations, their discoveries or their disagreements, and who knew but little of botanical science. Its results have had an important influence in determining the question at issue. In 1838 a French gardener, Esprit Fabre, found the Egilops ovata growing wild in the neighborhood of his residence at Adge. In the Autumn of that year he sowed the seed, and in 1839 the plants grew from 2 to 24 feet high, ripened and yielded an increase of only five fold. This increase was again sowed, and in 1840 the crop bore a strikng resemblance to genuine wheat. It was sowed that Fall, and in 1841 the product was a crop of ears more closely resembling true wheat. Great and important changes were observable in the grains of this third erop. There were no longer any barren spikelets, while all of them were in every respect like wheat, each one bearing two to three perfectly developed grains. These were sowed, but in 1842 the crop was almost entirely destroyed by rust. The few grains saved were owed, and in 1843 the plants grew three feet igh, the straw being firmer than before, and less brittle. The ears were less fragile, and resembled wheat exactly. One grain yielded 380 grains for one sown, and another 450. Planted again, and in 1844 all the spikelets were fertile, and many of them contained three grains. In 1845, all who examined the crop adjudged it to be true wheat. M. Fabre so regarded it himself, and in 1845 he sowed the grain in an open field, and for four succeeding years continued to produce it with equal success, the yield being 6 to 8 times the seed sown. The stems were straight, solid,

and were 30 inches high. firmed the position of one set of disputants, who maintain that by climate, soil, pesition, and culture, plants may permanently change their characteristics, while it covered with confusion some of the most eminent French botanists. Instead of according merit to the simple gardener who for twelve years had patiently labored to solve a great botanical problem, they impeached his veracity, and accused him of producing a mere hybrid, forgetting in their zeal that if so, it was one which possessed the rare quality of reproducing itself. This series of experiments is prenonneed by Mr. Klippart of Cincinnati, in his recent exhaustive work on the wheat plant, to be regnant with the most important consequences. He thinks that if wheat must be regarded as of an allied genera of the Egilops, it proves that botanists were not sufficiently familiar with the character of the plants when the classification was made, and that such identity will reconcile the traditions, the vague and disconnected accounts of the origin of wheat, which in ancient as well as in modern times, was claimed to be found in Babylonia, Persia, and Sicily, as in all of them the Egilops is very common.

Wherever the foot of civilized man has penc-

trated, this symbol of his power has gone with him. California, the latest illustration of this fact, which ten years ago imported vast quantities of flour, is now an exporter of feed. A not less curious fact is the number of varieties of wheat, and the apparently capricious taste of growers in selecting particular sorts for cultivation. The origin of some of these varieties is equally curious. The Hunter wheat, so extensively cultivated in Scotland, sprung from a single plent accidentally discovered in a large field. The Ohio Lambert wheat had a similar origin. Whence these varieties proceed, no one can say. A field of a kind long cultivated on the same farm, shows a strange head in its crop. It may topple up higher than its neighbors, or it may be larger and fuller, but from some cause attracting notice, it is preserved and prepagated. The difficulty is to say where it came from. A bird has probably picked it up in some northern elimate which produces a hardier berry, and flying south, has dropped it, undigested, on a field already sown, in season for vegetation to follow. This theory is sustained by the well-known fact that any variety of this grain which is taken much south of its usual locality and there sown, will present a more vigorous and hardy appearance than its neighbors that have been already acclimated. It is also known that all the varieties imported from Europe and now the standards in our best wheat regions, came from high latitudes. The most popular of them is the Mediterranean, siderable ability in conducting the canvass. At pected that we should have all the polish of the It was the acknowledged staff of life when the which is in reality Danish or Norwegian, the

common name of Mediterranean being a mis-

The wheat plant is much more sensitive to heat than it is to cold. If it be steeped for only fifteen minutes in water ten degrees above the bolling point, its vitality is destroyed. In northern latitudes the plant lives 180 days, but in Mexico only 100. Hence it is that our extreme Southern States have never been great wheat producing regions. Climate alone forbids it, even if the soil were the right one. Wheat requires a soil rich in phosphates, just as the vine requires lime. Every plant seems to need a specific stimulant. The tea of Java is inferior because the soil is overloaded with the salts of iron, a cause to which the Nankin cotton of China owes its orange color. Wheat also has its favorites in the catalogue of manures. Britwheat. But the plant has at no time, nor in any ish agriculture, aided by chemistry, has discovered what they are, and having used them freely, is rewarded by crops that nearly troble the yield of half a century ago. These are the phosphates. Distant countries are exhausted of bones to supply them, and vast quantities of phosphatic fertilizers are manufactured at home to meet the growing demand.

Winter-killing is constantly complained of by farmers without the causes being accurately known. If sowed too deep, the grain produces so few roots that it cannot afford to lose any of them without perishing. When the ground freezes and thaws many times, at each freezing it cracks open. The roots extend across these cracks and are torn asunder, thus depriving the plant of its necessary nourishment, when in many instances it perishes outright, or maintains a sickly and anprofitable existence. Sometimes the crop is thrown entirely out of the ground, when it is sure to perish, as the chance of forming new roots is gone. The natural remedy for such calamities is known to be a deep covering of snow. As the plant, during Winter, exerts all its energy in developing roots and leaves, leaving Spring to form the stalk and Summer to perfect it, a heavy and lasting snow keeps it so warm as to allow this energy to act, beside effectually protecting its roots from rupture by alternate freezing and thawing. But seasons occur when no snowy blanket falls. The artificial remedy is under draining, and if done thoroughly, it may be pronounced effectual against winter-killing. British agriculture abounds with proof of this, and in this country, since underdraining has been introduced, there is much confirmatory evidence. Our severe and variable climate renders it much more necessary than in England.

One of the most marvelous faculties of the wheat plant is that of sending up a multitude of stalks from a single grain, known as tillering. It is the secret of its great productiveness. Many experiments have been made to ascertain the limit of this faculty, and the results have been truly wonderful. An English gentleman sowed a few grains of common red wheat on the 2d of June, one of the plants from which had tilered so much by the 8th of August, that he then divided it into eighteen others, all which were planted separately. In a few weeks so many of there had again multiplied their stalks, that he had set out sixty-seven altogether to go through the Winter. With the Spring growth all these began tillering, so that in March and April a new divisios was made, and the number of plants increased to 500. It was believed that another division might have been made, and that it would have increased the number to 2,000. The 500 grew most vigorously, exceeding plants as ordinarily cultivated. When harvested, a single plant yielded over 100 ears, and the whole number of ears produced was 21,109, or more than 40 to each divided plant, and the grain measured 31 pecks, weighing 474 pounds. The grains were estimated as numbering 576,840. All this was the product of a single grain.

It is an error to suppose that ours is the greatest wheat-producing country. We do our full share, without doubt, but our system of agriculture is steadily exhausting our best lands, and in This remarkable result excited the liveliest at- a few years a diminution of the yield will be aptention from the learned men of Europe. It con. parent in our census returns. Last year's crop is assumed to be 180,000,000 bushels, but the a erage is probably only 120,000,000. The average

yield of other countries is as follows: ies 64,000,000 Persugal 5,500,000 60,470,184 Turkey (export only) 4,629,000 46,914,000 Holland 5,600,000 17,705,500 Denmark 4,000,000 19,975,000 Sweden and Norway 1,200,000

Here is an annual production of over 506,000,000 bushels. If the crops of this continent are included, the total may be safely assumed to be 900,000,000, as the unascertained project of Russia and Turkey must be very large. No better evidence of the primary value of the wheat plant to the human family could be given than such an exhibition as this. It proves that where the highest civilization has been attained there the greatest production is realized.

## THE TABIFF QUESTION IN THE

The irrepressible conflict between the South Carolina notions of Free Trade and the practi cal necessity of a tariff for revenue, has already broken out with considerable force in the Congress at Montgomery. Mr. Harris of Mississippi offered a resolution providing for the gradual reduction of duties and the enlargement of the free pist. He argued that a reduction of the duties would invite the great Northwest to cheaper markets than those of Boston and New-York, and would enable the Southern merchants to undersell those of the North-" in other words, "achieve one of the great positive advantages arising from our separation from the unfriendly "States of North America-to wit: commercial independence."

Mr. Toombs objected. He was not prepared for a reduction of the duties, because he was by no means sure that the Government would in that case be left with sufficient funds to carry on its operations. "It is very important that we should raise a large revenue in this the beginning of our political existence. We must provide for an army and navy. We must be prepared to defend our rights and liberties, and maintain our national independence among the nations of the earth." He thought there could be no reduction without impairing the prospect of a revenue adequate to the wants of the Confederacy.

Mr. Barnwell of South Carolina thought differently. He thought that large reductions could and should be made. Mr. Miles, slso of South Carolina, agreed with Mr. Barnwell. He said be wes one of those who had always supposed that the South was for free-trade. He was daily in receipt of letters from Charleston from less merchants urging grave objections to the tariff, and stating that a duty of ten or fifteen per ceut